NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

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ORIGINAL AGRICULTURAL ESSAYS.

DISSERTATION ON THE MIXTURE OF SOILS.

Concluded from page 250.

Beds of the most valuable peat often lie several feet below the surface. When this substance is removed from its bed and exposed to the action of the atmosphere, it readily yields to a fermenting influence, the first requisite to its becoming a useful constituent part of soil. Peat should always be applied to soils, which tend to an excess in fermentation. At the same time that it opposes the progress of that disease in a soil, it is gradually reduced to a state of decomposition, in which it contains much food of plants. Marl, which is a very rich ingredient in a judicious application of it to soils, is also found at various distances from the surface in the sub-soil. Marl is a composition of several substances, and the nature of those substances must be carefully examined to discover on what sort of soil, a particular bed of it can be applied with the greatest effect. There is what agricultural writers call shell marl. This is a suitable application for almost any soil. It is composed chiefly of animal substances and lime, and therefore will act in any situation as a powerful stimulant. Mr Brown, in his treatise on agriculture, says, 'It would seem that shell marl, from the qualities it possesses, promotes vegetation in all the different ways. It increases the food of plants; it communicates to the soil a power of attracting this food from the air; it enlarges the pasture of plants; and it prepares the vegetable food for entering their roots.

Shell marl is easily distinguished by the shells which always appear in it; but the similarity between earth marl and many other fossil substances, renders it difficult to distinguish them. The common test, however, will be sufficiently certain for all the purposes of the farmer. Earth, that effervesces in acids, partakes of the character of marl, and the degree of effervesence will pretty accurately show to what extent it partakes of that character. But we must not be governed exclusively by the strength and richness of marl, in our selection of situations to apply it; we should also attend to its natural tenacity and the character of the earth about the beds which contain it. If it be silicious earth or coarse gravel, then the marl belongs to cold and clayey soils. If it be a compact and clayey substance, then the marl should be placed on loose and warm soils. When marl is properly applied, almost any desired degree of richness can be produced by it. No other manure will be necessary in the first rotation of crops. But the same cautions are important in the use of this substance, which are so necessary to be observed in the application of lime. Both marl and lime stimulate the soil to unusual exertion, and if nothing else for a long succession of years be applied, there will follow debility, and the land will be reduced to barrenness. This effect is to be feared only in the imprudent and exclusive use of these substances; under prudent management they are powerful and highly important agents. In a correct rotation of cropping and with occasional supplies of other manures, neither marle nor lime will ever prove injurious.

By digging deep into the earth, all the mineral substances are found which may impart a new texture to soils, or by acting on the animal and vegetable matter contained in them, in the decomposition and solution of it, will assist in furnishing food for plants. The fossils, which, mixed with soils, will increase the richness and fertility of them, are very numerous and no more than imperfectly understood. Every extended advance of the farmer towards the interior regions of the earth, tends to increase our knowledge of the mineral kingdom; as it is likely to furnish the chemist with some new subject of analysis. Excavations may sometimes be profitably made in the earth, for the sole purpose of mixing the materials obtained, with the different soils on the farm. Experiments of this sort, if they should not result in any addition to the stock of general knowledge, would certainly increase local knowledge, and would impart more correct ideas of the constituent parts of that portion of the earth in our possession and under our immediate control. The substances taken out of the earth in the various operations of society, should always be carefully examined and experiments made with them. In deep recesses of the earth are hidden many precious treasures, and every generation of men have a part to perform in the development of them.

We descend far into the earth for the fossil which now warms so many of our houses, and on which we depend for heat in so many of our works of art. There, also, we can find the choicest substances to enrich our land. All former researches of this nature have been followed with great reward, and there can be no want of motives to perseverance in the work. The preceding remarks have been chiefly confined to substances, which, at the same time they improve the texture of the soils, act on them as manures, either by their stimulating influences or by imparting the food of plants. Such substances form the principal resources for enriching land, in the progress of improvement on a farm. But there is also a mixture necessary as the foundation of improvement in many situations. There are sand barrens and pure clays which produce nothing, and manures applied in the common form and measure will have scarcely any influence. A radical defect exists and a remedy must first be provided for that, or all our applications will be as ineffectual and useless, as the administration of the most nourishing food to a sick man. A soil chiefly composed of sand is too porous; it does not retain enough of moisture; it admits light and heat so freely as to cause a very rapid dissolution of all the vegetable matters that happen to be incorporated with it. We call it hungry soil and say manure does it no good. We conclude manure does no good because it never lasts till any crop is matured. Its force is all expended, like that of a prodigal son, before the highest energies have ever been demanded.

This soil we should not attempt to cure with mere palliatives; we should engage at once in the work of changing, totally changing, the texture of it. Many of the substances already enumerated can be applied in such portions, as will greatly alter the character of a sandy soil. Alluvion, that has been collected by streams passing over long beds of tenacious earth, with a portion of peat and other vegetable matters, may possibly prove sufficient to remedy all the defects of it. But there is a more expeditious and much cheaper method of accomplishing the object. Clay, extensive beds of which are generally found in the neighborhood of sandy soils, if mixed with them in large quantities will immediately and permanently change their character. The particles of these opposite sorts of earth will mingle in such a manner, that dews and rain will be well retained in the soil, and light and heat will be admitted in degrees sufficient to decompose vegetable substances,as fast as the growing plants will require nourishment from them; but not so fast as before, when there was so rapid a solution that plants were always left destitute of food in an unmatured state.

The clay pit should always be the first resort in the preparation of sandy barrens, to become fruitful fields. No definite rules are necessary in relation to the quantity of clay that should be applied; the eye and the hand will determine with sufficient accuracy enough, when the clay is laid on in sufficient portions to retain moisture, which is the first and principal object to be accomplished. Clay, in an unmixed state, is represented as the most unfriendly to vegetation of any of the primitive earths. All the properties of it, with the exception of its power to retain moisture, are said to counteract the vegetative principle. And some writers have endeavored to discourage, wholly, the use and application of it as an ingredient in soils. In poetic style it has been said,

> 'He that carts sand makes land,
> He that carts clay flings his land away.'

This idea must have been originated in abstract views of the properties of clay, and without any attention to the defects of soils composed chiefly of the opposite earth. Clay, in its natural state, retains too much water for the health and vigor of vegetation; it is too compact for the roots of plants to extend themselves and collect nourishment; it powerfully counteracts the process of fermentation, and plants growing in it often suffer in want of the necessary and proper food. Now all these qualities render it a highly important application on sand. Water passes too soon through sand, and it is not compact enough to give shelter, firmness, and the necessary protection to the roots of plants. Sand powerfully promotes the putrefactive process and often completes it in all the vegetable matter it contains, long before the time of maturity in plants.

In the language of Agricola, 'sand suffers water to filter easily through its pores; clay is highly retentive of water; sand promotes putrefaction, clay delays it; sand suffers the gases set at liberty in putrefaction to escape; clay absorbs the gases; sand opens an unobstructed path for the extension of the roots of vegetables, clay gives them firmness in their course and supplies the moisture, which sustains them. In fine, the two may be classed among the contending elements, of which a union

heightens their common virtues and subdues their defects.'

Clay and sand are the principal earthy ingredients in all soils. The operations of nature have combined the opposite qualities of them in such a variety of ways, as to produce that diversified texture of soil which is found in every country. It must be absurd for us to think the course of nature, in this respect, cannot be usefully imitated by art; that where sand is found in its simple state, it cannot be reduced by the admixture of clay to a good vegetable mould. We cannot easily engage in any work more certainly useful, or that will ultimately prove more productive. The uphill to be encountered in this sort of labor should discourage no man; every step brings gain and brightens the prospect. In these operations the valleys are raised and the hills are beautified. It is work not necessary to be repeated every year or in any short succession of years, but when once well done it is done for ages.

The utility of mixing sand with clayey soil is seldom questioned. This is generally down-hill work, and sand is carried in much larger portions on to clay, than clay is ever carried on to sand. Hence, probably the notion that it is good to cart sand, but bad to cart clay. The effects must be reciprocal and would always so appear, if the work in both cases were equally well performed. Doctrines which demand few laborious duties gain an easy currency, whether they relate to philosophy, morals, or religion; they are likely to grow too popular and to be carried into great extremes. This has been the fact in the estimates made of the uses and in the application of sand; the results have been so manifestly and greatly beneficial, when properly used, the conclusion has been too hastily drawn that its influence must everywhere be salutary, and sometimes it has been used like the good woman's 'sugar, in everything.' The common notion that sand is a suitable application for low and moist lands, is correct only in relation to soils of a particular texture. Many of the low lands have a very loose and spongy soil; there may be defects in them, but sand cannot be the proper remedy. Some low and moist lands will be found, on examination, composed chiefly of sand to the depth of several feet. Mix sand with sand to any extent and the product can be only sand. Sand-hills are treasures, but like every other sort of earthly treasure, valuable only in the proper use of them. There can be no more tendency in sand to stimulate a soil of similar quality to renewed exertion, than there is in increasing wealth to stimulate the miser to deeds of generosity. The proper uses of sand in agriculture are its application to tenacious soils, for the purpose of opening and destroying the rigidity of them; and to clay, for the purpose of reducing it to a state in which the roots of plants can travel and find nourishment. Sand should always be used in compliance with the rule of mixing different qualities.

In closing a discussion of this sort, it may not be deemed strictly proper to present even a summary view of arguments, which, on a different occasion, might be used in persuading farmers to an early and persevering engagement in the work of mixing soils. It seems to be the business of this discourse to describe useful courses, rather than urge the pursuit. It may, however, be allowable to direct attention to the growing importance of the subject we have been considering, in language used about forty years ago, by the late lamented Dr Mitchell:

'Hitherto,' said that accurate observer and enlightened friend of progressive improvement, 'Hitherto the American husbandman has cultivated a soil, enriched for ages by the yearly addition of a fresh stratum of mould. From the first existence of vegetation upon the dry land, decayed plants have continually furnished a supply of manure, which the winds and the rains have liberally spread abroad. As the supply was annually greater than the consumption, the earth, unexhausted by its productions, increased in fertility. The thick layer of vegetable mould which covered the face of the earth, was a storehouse of food for plants, and their quantity was greatly increased by the conversion of wood into ashes, by clearing. It is not wonderful then, that for some years, newly cleared settlements should abound in produce and require little more labor, than that of ploughing and reaping; for during this period, the provision is wasting which for centuries had been accumulating. But the time will come, and indeed in many places now is, when the land, repeatedly wounded by the plough-share and exhausted of its richness, shall be too weak of itself to make plants grow with their former luxuriance.

'This may be called THE ERA OF SYSTEMATIC AGRICULTURE, when man, taking the earth from nature's hand, bare of manure, is so to manage and dispose it artificially, that it shall yield first a subsistence and then an overplus to grow wealthy upon. How far art may go in this species of improvement is yet unknown, as the *ultimatum of fertility* has never yet been reached. As far as experiments have been made, we find the earth liberally affording its produce in proportion to the labor and skill bestowed in its tillage; and as the ingenuity and invention of man may increase to an unknown and incredible degree, so may the improvements and management of husbandry keep pace therewith, until the most fruitful spot that now exists may produce a ten-fold quantity, and the land which now supports an hundred men, give equal enjoyment to a thousand.'

TEMPERANCE.

There is one subject, closely connected with the interests of every farmer, on which I feel fully competent to advise; without, however, arrogating to myself any merit for having made any important discovery or improvement, I can only respond the sentiments of thousands of others, familiar to all, but unheeded by many; sentiments which should be reiterated again and again from one end of our continent to the other, till all, of every class, are constrained to see their importance.

It is not my design to write a formal essay on temperance and its blessings, or to trace the frightful progress and delineate the baneful effects of intemperance; but let me be permitted to add my veto to the yet too common practice with farmers, to resort to the bottle for a spur, when the labors of an oppressive day are drawing hard upon their strength. I can speak with confidence on this subject, as my knowledge is the result of experience. I assert then, without fear of contradiction, that ardent spirits do not add permanently to the strength or vigor of the laboring man, but their exhilirating effects are sure to be followed by a corresponding langour of depression. Without some very powerful and conclusive reason, the farmer should be teh last man to countenance or support a practice which he sees is making such ravages. Let him look around him and inquire for the cause why so many farms are so badly managed; why so many buildings are going to decay; why there are so many dilapidated walls and fences, and unruly cattle; why so many uneducated and ragged children, and why so many estates are mortgaged to merchants, lawyers and doctors? he will generally find the cause to be, not that their *daughters are more fond of extravagance and finery than of labor*, but that the occupants cannot labor in their fields without the stimulating, deleterious and disarranging aid of a bottle of rum. This is the canker which is gnawing at the vital interests, not only of the farmer, but of our common country.

And now, brother farmers, permit me to direct your attention to a few of the primary reasons, why this practice ought, in my opinion, to receive your unqualified disapprobation. 1st. No satisfactory reason can be given why it ought not to be discontinued. 2d. It has been discovered that the idea that ardent spirits are necessary for persons in health, or as a remedy for exhaustion or fatigue, is a fatal delusion, which has caused the ruin of thousands. 3d. That they possess no one good quality which ought to redeem them from the execration of every virtuous member of society. 4th. That the good they ever have done or ever can do, is infinitely insufficient to counterbalance the evil. 5th. That they are entailing on our posterity a curse, which has nothing but its own shocking deformity to recommend it, as it is totally incapable of being compensated by any substantial good. 6th. They certainly impair the physical, the moral, and the intellectual faculties, and produce premature imbecility and old age. 7th. They effectually eradicate the finer sensibilities of our nature, love, benevolence, cheerfulness, &c, and make us susceptible of the grosser passions, such as anger, hatred, revenge, cruelty, &c. 8th. They drive reasonfrom her throne, prostitute the dignity of intelligent man and transform him into a brute. 9th. They fill our penitentiaries with convicts, our jails with criminals and debtors, our infirmaries with invalids and lunatics, our streets with vagabonds, our country with drunkards, our grave yards with premature victims, and our world with wretchedness and wo. And to balance this dark account, what good do they do? You who yet advocate their use will say, perhaps, that they are necessary for the laboring man in hot weather, when the system is highly excited by heat, to drive it out and cause a grateful and free perspiration, as well as to prevent the dangerous effects of cold water. But I believe you would suspect the man a fool, or beside himself, or trifling at least, who should go into a tavern on a day like some we had in December, rubbing his ears, kicking his boots, and calling for a glass of spirits to drive the heat out! Nor would you think much more favorably of him who, in perfect health, in the dog-days, should wrap himself in his great-coat and swallow a dose of brandy and pepper, to keep him warm or prevent his catching cold! The ridiculous notion that the nature of spirits changes with the season, that they cool in summer and warm in winter, is too absurd to be cherished by the en lightened farmers of New England.

But the most dangerous opinion, and which should be received with extreme distrust, is that which attributes to them the power of defending the system from the injurious effects of cold water;

as no impression can be more fatally false than this. The united testimony of many able and distinguished physicians, who could have no party or sinister objects to promote, corroborate these views. We have the opinions of Doctors Rush, Johnson, Bradford, and a host of others, on the subject, long before Temperance Societies were thought of. I beg leave to quote a single sentence from Doct. Johnson's '*Essay on the Influence of Tropical Climates*'

'The same principles (that is, principles which he applied to tropical,) will apply to our own climate in the summer, and to an error in this particular is to be ascribed a large portion of the sudden deaths, which occur at this period and which are usually ascribed to the effects of an *agent*, which often plays but a second part in this operation, that is, *cold water*. I do not mean to deny (he continues) that death occasionally happens from drinking water, when the system is in a state of high excitation—but this very state is the dangerous one, and this, *in ninetynine cases out of a hundred, is produced by spirits*.'

Setting aside, then, the gratification of a vitiated and depraved appetite, I would ask, what apology remains for their use? The answer, if unswayed by the love of rum, must be, NONE.

As to an article of diet, they are no longer to be tolerated; as an article of luxury, if there is any pleasure in their use, let it be enjoyed by the idle voluptuary, whose time or continuance in life is of but little consequence; but the time and life of so useful a member of society as the industrious farmer, are too precious to be thus trifled with, at least so thinks your humble servant,

JNO. TOWNSEND.

Andover, Con. Feb. 18, 1832.

DISEASE IN HORSES.

MR FESSENDEN,

SIR—We deem it a privilege of the greatest public utility, that we are permitted to exchange sentiments through the medium of your interesting paper; especially when conflicting opinions are expressed in a friendly and charitable manner. We were much gtatified by Dr Peck's statement, relative to the late sickness of his horse. We have experienced something of the kind amongst us; though our cases carried the appearance of a putrid type, rather than that of an inflammatory one; and the result of practice was correspondent. For those that were bled died, and those that were not generally recovered.

Dr Peck informs, that 'History furnishes us with the accounts of severe epidemics, in which several domestic animals were simultaneously affected.' Which is really true. Witness the year 1711, when there was such a sweeping mortality among the black cattle of Europe. The writer says it appeared like 'a malignant fatal fever,' and there was a plague among the people at the same time. Also in the year 1714, the plague raged in Holland among the cattle, till 300,000 died; and the spotted fever prevailed among the people, and many died in the streets, until the magistrates interfered and gave them assistance.

Also in 1734, when horses were said to be taken with a fever, and on the fifth day they had twitchings, and on the seventh and ninth they had deliriums, and on the ninth and twelfth they died raging. After the first two patients, I began (saith the writer,) the cure of the rest with weak diluents, then gave them mild laxatives, and repeated this course for the first 5 days. When the *subsultus tendinum* and light headedness appeared, they had the following powder: *contrayerva*, one scruple; *radix serpentaria* six grains, and camphor three grains M. By which, convulsions, delirium, and all dangers wore off. The fever went off the thirteenth or fifteenth day—no more died if this course was taken. This was a fatal time among aged people, and immediately after set in the cholera morbus, with convulsions, &c.

Undoubtedly the case of Dr Peck's horse was epidemical, or rather epi-ipical, if we may be allowed the expression. We are told that the horse had 'an obstinate and constant tendency to the left, which might have been owing to unequal affections of the two hemispheres of the brain,' which we have no disposition to dispute, but permit us to say in our opinion, it may proceed from a spasmodic affection on the left side, or greater on the left side at least, which may be demonstrated by a pair of wheels and axle-tree; if the wheels are of equal diameter, give them a propelling force, they will move in a right line; but should they be of unequal diameter, they would move in circular lines. In like manner, should the muscles of the legs and neck, on the left side of the horse be contracted, there must of course be an obstinate inclination to the left, in proportion as the locomotive faculty on that side was impaired. The Dr observes, it might be well to start a little blood to relieve the congested organs, which we believe is generally approved of by our best physicians. But permit me to inquire if that does not depend on the cause?—We recollect but three cases, viz. inflammation, inaction, and lentor. Inaction may depend on ateny or spasm, and they, on a paucity of blood. Would not bleeding, in this case, increase the cause rather than remove it? Should the inaction depend on plethora, undoubtedly bleeding is indicated. In case of lentor, would taking a part of the best blood have a tendency to remove the congestion? Would not diluents (which our author made use of in 1734,) do better? The Dr observes, the vessels of the brain were very turgid. May not this proceed from a spasm compressing the other part of the vessels as the application of a ligature?

The consideration of congested vessels, calls to mind the anecdote of a man's curing a patient of an obstinate headache, after several bleedings by his attending physician had failed. The physician asked him what he did to cure him? Why, said he, what do you do when your ink is so thick that it will not run? Put in water and make it more thin, said the physician. So did I give the patient much water and diluents to drink, to thin the blood to make make it circulate, said he.

We have had frequent cases of typhus fever, cholera morbus, &c, the season past; and the physician's bleeding had the same effect as the farrier's. Of the persons who were let blood, a great proportion of them died; and those who were not let blood, generally recovered. This leads us to suppose that the diseases of man and beast were simultaneous and typhus. Some say, to assert that pains proceed from inflammation in typhus fever, would be a contradiction in terms, according to the common import of the word typhus, which is derived from the Greek word *tuphos*, signifying ostentation, or smoke without fire—so that *typhus* signifies the appearance of fever, without fever or heat. It appears to be a general practice in *post mortem* examinations, on whatever parts are to be found traces of the disease, to pronounce them the effect of an inflammation,—but why, we are not able to say. Those dark spots which appear on persons before death, called *vibices*, are not said to be the effects of inflammation. But, should they be found on any internal parts after death, they would be pronounced the effects of inflammation.

We presume it is very difficult to distinguish the effects of inflammation, from the effects of spasms and contusions, in *post mortem* examinations. Again, are not physicians too prone to attribute all pains to the effects of inflammation, which may produce pain, so will spasms without inflammation? Therefore pain, simply considered, does not indicate one more than the other, and we deem it impossible to know which, without taking under consideration the concomitant symptoms; and likewise regard being had to the effects of practice, for letting blood will relieve inflammatory cases, and stimulants will aggravate them. Stimulants will relieve spasmodic cases, but blood letting will aggravate them. MEDICUS.

Minot, Me. Feb. 15, 1832.

SUGAR FROM POTATOES.

I am informed that in the neighborhood of Jaffrey, N. H. there is now preparing an establishment for the manufacture of Sugar and Molasses, on a large scale, from Potatoes. It is calculated to pay for the potatoes their cash value there, 17 cents per bushel, and net a profit, above all costs and expenses, of 20 cents per bushel. From each bushel of potatoes, 7 pounds of sugar are made.

Let the friends of the abolition of slavery and the amelioration of the condition of negroes, throughout the world, consider well, and proclaim everywhere, what would be the *happy result* of supplanting or diminishing the consumption of West India sugar, which would be in some measure effected, if every large agricultural town in New England had its sugar works. Attentive observers have noticed that when prices of West India produce are low, their negroes are not over worked and fare better. R. P. WILLIAMS.

Boston, Feb. 1832.

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A detail of the process of making sugar from potatoes, is given in Silliman's Journal of Jan. 1832. It is there said that

'A bushel of potatoes weighs about sixty pounds, and gives eight pounds of pure, fine, dry starch. This amount of starch will make five pints of sugar, of the weight of nearly twelve pounds to the gallon, equal to seven pounds and a half to the bushel of potatoes, or a little less than a pound of sugar to the pound of starch. The sugar is not as sweet as the Muscovado sugar, nor is it actually as sweet as its taste would indicate.

'This sugar may be used for all kinds of domestic purposes. It ferments with great liveliness and spirit, when made into beer, yielding a healthful and delicious beverage, and on distillation, a fine cider-brandy flavored spirit. It would however be most useful in making sweetmeats, and may be used upon the table in lieu of honey, for which it is a good substitute. It has already become a favorite with most people who have become acquainted with it. Its taste is that of a delicious sweet, and as an article of dietit is unquestionably more healthful and less oppressive to the stomach, than any other sweet ever used.'

COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

ON RAISING OATS AND POTATOES.

Mr Fessenden—It is not with the vain expectation of contributing anything, that will be either very interesting or profitable to your numerous readers, that I comply with the invitation in the 30th No. of your useful paper. Should you deem the few hasty remarks I propose to offer, of sufficient consequence to occupy a place in your columns, (a presumption which a censurable remissness on the part of your more scientific and enlightened correspondents and readers, will alone justify,) I hope my contribution, like the widow's mite, will not be appreciated according to its intrinsic value, but from the motive which induces it.

Should every practical farmer who reads your paper, obey your request by communicating from time to time, the results of his experiments, experience and practice, whether successful or adverse, they would amount, in the aggregate, to a fund of useful information which would be of incalculable worth to that numerous class of your readers, to whose interest your columns are chiefly devoted; and whose object is to profit by the experience of practical farmers, communicated through them.

As the sowing and planting season is rapidly approaching, and as I have sometimes been accused of raising better oats and potatoes than some of my neighbors, I propose to inform such of your readers who know no better way, my method of cultivating these particular crops; or rather, the method which, after various experiments, I intend to pursue in future, till I learn some more excellent way, which if known to any of your readers, they will confer a favor by communicating.

First then as to oats, I shall sow them as early in the spring as the state of the ground will admit, on land which the year before was planted with corn and potatoes; that planted with corn first, received from twenty to twentyfive cart loads of stable and barnyard manure to the acre, which was spread and ploughed in five or six inches deep. The crop of corn was good, but I am satisfied it would have been better had the ground been ploughed more shallow, or first ploughed and the manure harrowed in; the ground not being drawn into hills, is now level; I shall plough it evenly to the same depth as before and sow it with a little more than two bushels of oats to an acre, recollecting that 'he that soweth sparingly shall also reap sparingly,' (which those must do, if any were so unfortunate, who followed the mistaken directions in a former communication of mine respecting wheat; I said *five* pecks instead of three as it was printed;) I shall plough them in with a very light plough, or harrow them in. I have practised both ways and have never discovered any essential difference in the crop; in either case the roller is not to be omitted. The ground from which a crop of potatoes was taken will be managed the same. It may not be improper to remark here, that the potato crop in this section was uncommonly light, generally. Several who saw my crop while gathering, pronounced it much the best they had seen. I impute the difference principally to manuring and seeding. I select the finest potatoes for seed while gathering the crop; choose to plant them the latter part of May or early in June, on greensward ploughed once shallow, and apply from twenty to thirty loads of manure from the hogyard, spread and harrowed in. The potatoes are cut into pieces, having two or three eyes in each piece, and placed three in a hill. I choose to plant shallow and near the surface. When they are all well up I hoe them well, and before they begin to top and fall down I hoe them again, forming a round, handsome hill, which by fall is generally well filled with fair, handsome potatoes.

I obtained some (as I esteem them) very valuable hints on the management of plough land, from an address published in your paper, some four or five years ago, (before I was a subscriber,) delivered before the Saratoga County Agricultural Society, by Earl Stimson, Esq.* I take the liberty to suggest the propriety of republishing it. An intelligent and successful farmer in a neighboring town, who obligingly lent me the papers containing the address, assured me that he had been guided, and much to his advantage, by the directions contained therein.

It has been the practice of many farmers in this and many other sections of Connecticut, to manure both corn and potatoes in the hill, drawing the earth into hills around the plants, and to split the corn hills by striking one or two furrows lengthwise with the rows, (instead of harrowing them down,) and then to sow oats and plough them in, leaving the rest to nature, which must struggle hard to bring forward a very abundant crop from the cold depth where the seed lies buried.

I offer these brief remarks, not so much with a view to instruct as to elicit instruction from others, who have the advantage of more extensive information and experience, and a more happy talent to communicate them than I pretend to claim.

JNO. TOWNSEND.

Andover, Con. Feb. 18, 1832.

TRAINING CATTLE.

There is one subject connected with husbandry which is of considerable importance, and which I do not recollect to have seen noticed by any of your correspondents. I mean the best method of training cattle for labor. To be sure, every farmer's boy who is capable of handling a whip or goad, imagines himself competent to break a pair of steers. On this subject I confess myself wholly unable to impart any instruction or advice, having had but very little experience. I have generally purchased my working oxen ready broke, of different persons, and have never bought two pair which were alike with respect to their propensities for work; I have found the difference to vary and range from very good to good for nothing; some have been kind and docile, while others have been timorous, or vicious and stubborn. What is the cause of this wide difference? Has nature established it? Is it to be found in their natural dispositions, or is it the result of education? The latter I am inclined to believe, and the more so from my observations within two weeks.

Having often been unfortunate in purchasing I resolved to train my own, and commenced last week with a pair of steers coming three years old, which from habit had become rather wild. Having had, as I before observed, little or no experience of my own, yet common sense taught me to avoid the practice of some others, who profess to understand the art and mystery of subduing the most stubborn animal almost in an instant; instead, therefore, of confining one of them till the yoke, ring, staple and all are fastened to his neck, and then setting him loose with this frightful appendage rattling and flying about his head, till the poor animal, 'frightened out of his wits' and exhausted with running, stops and stands still for his mate to be served in the same way, by which time having recovered his breath, both are again set loose, tied tail to tail, to perform their very interesting and amusing evolutions; they are now half subdued and the whip soon accomplishes the rest, and teaches them to lead a team. Will not cattle managed in this way, frightened, lacerated, abused and provoked, be likely to remember it, and ever after to be timorous or stubborn? Right or wrong, I managed differently. My first care was to make fast a chain to a post, having ready two pair of steady oxen near by. The yoke was then put on to the first steer, to which the chain was immediately fastened; he made one or two efforts to get away, but finding them unavailing soon desisted; the other was then yoked, and they were led off quietly between the oxen into the woods; they were used in this manner three days in succession, they were not yoked again for several days on account of bad weather, when I directed my boys to yoke them and put them forward in the team, merely to exercise them; this was done then and several times since without the least difficulty—they have neither deserved nor received a stroke of the whip to hurt them.

I am confident that our domestic animals may be so taught, as to make the inhuman and abusive use of the lash, so often witnessed, altogether unnecessary. Is not this a subject worthy of the pen of some one of your humane correspondents, whose practical knowledge enables him minutely to point out the proper course to obtain the desired result?

JNO. TOWNSEND.

Andover, Con. Feb. 18, 1832.

*See New England Farmer, vol. v. page 244, 256.

GRAPE VINES.

Grafting grape vines is a new thing in this section. But few have heard of it or tried the experiment. The stock of the common wild grape, numerous in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, will answer for grafting almost any of the varieties of the grape. A publication in a southern paper induced me, the last spring, to try the experiment of grafting at the surface, denuding the stock three inches below the surface. The scions of the Isabella grape, cut the fall previous and kept buried in the cellar, were inserted at the surface, leaving one eye above, tying a string round the stock and drawing the earth to the stock. The scions sprouted, but grew but little. It is said they will grow over twenty feet the first year and bear the second. But my scions were probably injured by being shaded, and by neglecting to cut off frequently the sprouts from the old and other contiguous stocks. I cut off another stock about three feet above the ground, and grafted with composition, (one part of tallow, two of bees-wax, and three of resin, prepared like shoemakers' wax,) in the same manner that apple trees are generally grafted. This Isabella scion succeeded well. In the fall I measured as accurately as I could, with a ten foot pole, the main and lateral branches, and the length of each being added together amounted to sixty feet, the main stock was twelve feet. From this vine I anticipate this year a fine parcel of grapes. The tops of the old stocks I cut into more than fifty pieces, and planted them perpen-

dicularly and horizontally, by the side of a stone wall in rich soil. Most of them took root and sent forth branches, and will serve for stocks to graft. I have more than a hundred old stocks which I intend to graft in the spring. It is said that the grafted vines will partake of the hardihood of the native stock. No doubt many of the varieties will endure our frosty climate. Should farmers in Massachusetts and New Hampshire cultivate vineyards of hardy grapes, no reason can be assigned to prove that they cannot make good wine for domestic purposes. Respectfully yours,

WILLIAM CLAGGETT.

Portsmouth, N. H. Feb. 13, 1832.

WOOD SNAPPING ON THE FIRE.

Mr Fessenden—Is it not a fact, that such wood as hemlock, chesnut, &c, which grows in great abundance in many parts of the United States and Canada, would be more used for fuel if it were not for its disagreeable and perhaps dangerous quality, of snapping or throwing coals out of the fire? If such be the case, it may be well to make it generally known that this quality, so far as regards split wood, may be in a great measure overcome by placing it properly on the fire; that is to say, by laying the inner side or that part which was nearest the heart, towards the fire, for the coals actually fly in that direction. A slight inspection of the grain at the end of the wood, will show the side which grew nearest to the centre, and this side should never be turned in any direction by which coals thrown from it can fall into the room. A little attention to this circumstance will enable many a thrifty housewife, to have a hot fire made in an open fire-place, of wood which is now considered almost detestable for that purpose; and perhaps she may learn, in time, to relish the snapping sound, as Goldsmith seems to have done that of the 'crackling fagot,' which he associates in his ballad with the cheerful chirrup of the cricket. Yours, C.

ASSOCIATIONS TO PROMOTE THE CULTURE OF SILK.

To J. H. Cobb, Esq. of Dedham, Mass.

I would beg leave to make to you a few observations, without signing my name.

I have seen your work, published by order of the Massachusetts Legislature, and satisfactorily is it proved to my mind, that the results of this branch of industry may be of incalculable benefit to the whole country, in time equaling, if not surpassing, any other branch of our manufactures. But, however much individual enterprise may do, I cannot think its growth will equal its importance, without associations formed in each county for the raising of mulberry trees. I would suggest that a paper be drawn up, setting forth the object and giving to each signer half an ounce of the Mulberry seed. And every person thus a member to pay some small sum (so as to admit all gratis in agricultural pursuits,) yearly, merely sufficient to defray the expenses of the society; this would excite each and every one who has land, and would make it one of the leading objects in the country towns. Now is the time, while our legislature are together, to endeavor by some means to bring about a State Association, with the influence of the members of each county, who now more than ever, are looking at the subject. In the county of Norfolk there would be no delay in forming a society, each pledging himself to plant half an ounce of Mulberry seed and raise an orchard of trees. For myself and others, I can say you shall not want our assistance; but it is necessary that the project should be started by yourself, who have a theoretical and practical knowledge of the subject.

Your obedient servant.

HOP BEER.

For one barrel, boil 1½ lbs. of good hops and 1½ lbs. of ginger in 10 gallons of water, one hour. Put 10 quarts of molasses into a barrel, to which add the liquor hot, shake it well; then add some cold water and 1 pint of yest, shake and stir it again; then add the whites of a dozen eggs finely beaten and cold water sufficient to fill the cask, give it another stirring with a stick, bung it close and let it stand one month. It should be made in June or July—instead of half a pint or more of rum per day, a moderate quantity of it should be drank by the laborer, who will find it to add to his strength and vigor, allay his thirst, and prolong his life and consequently his usefulness. Try it and see. J. T.

Andover, Con. Feb. 1832.

HORTICULTURAL PREMIUMS.

Thomas G. Fessenden, Esq.

Dear Sir—I did not intend when I wrote to you a few days since, giving out a few hints and suggestions in respect to horticultural premiums, &c, to have troubled you again; at least so early. The purpose for which I wrote has been fully answered. That is, to call forth the opinions of some of the most experienced and scientific gentlemen, as well as 'practical horticulturists.' It is a maxim of J. C. Loudon, Esq. (a gentleman who has undoubtedly done more for the education, information, and instruction of gardeners, than any other,) that all gardeners should be readers and writers as well as practitioners; that they may readily and plainly communicate their thoughts to paper. For what can we learn from those who have studied the theory only? But I am occupying too much room in your useful paper, to indulge in any speculations. I am much gratified to find that my communication has drawn forth the opinions of a 'Practical Horticulturis,' and although he says his 'avocations' are such as will not allow him to devote much time to 'controversy,' yet I am highly pleased to find he is disposed to pay some little attention to the subject.

I think your correspondent has furnished us with quite a treatise and one which may be very valuable to some of your readers. But to come more immediately to the subject, I shall begin and substantiate what I said respecting the 'gross inequalities' which I spoke of in my communication. As regards the remark I made in relation to cucumbers, he cordially agrees with me; but then says the same remarks will not apply to grapes. He says he has never seen, what is considered by gardeners a forced grape, in America, excepting some specimens from Jamaica Plains last season; and those not exhibited until July. I am sorry that your correspondent and myself, did not alike understand the word *forced*. What he terms, or says are termed, forced grapes, are those grown by artificial heat and ripened out of season. But look a little further and what do we find? he says all the use he has seen made of glass, is to create an 'artificial' climate, &c, and does not this look a little like a contradiction? The usual season for grapes to ripen in the open air in this climate, is generally in September or the early part of October; and therefore if grapes under glass, are matured by the first of August, as many were last season in the vicinity of Boston, they must have been forced; for to cut ripe grapes by the first of August, will require the space of five months to bring them to perfection, and accordingly the vines must be broke by the first of March. Now, if the vine will not break until May in the open air, it follows of course, that they must be forced to break, by making or anticipating an artificial climate of the temperature of May, in March. At two or three different places last season, I tasted ripe Hamburgh grapes in the early part of August, and if he will take the opportunity to visit the same places at the present time, (at least soon,) he will find that the vines are already broken and artificial heat applied. Can he then say grapes ripened at that season are not forced? Not having the premium list before me when I wrote, I inferred it read forced; but have since looked and found it read 'grown under glass;' it however makes no material difference; the analogy is the same. He says, from experience, he knows it requires more skill to grow grapes in our precarious climate in the open air, than under glass, unless ripened in June. But I still think not; in fact, *I know* from experience that it does not. Speaking with the gentleman who obtained one of the premiums last season, for the fine specimens of Hamburgh, grown out, he said he bestowed hardly any care upon them, not even to prevent the approach of mildew. I exceedingly regret that our opinions are so far at variance.

My remarks on the premiums for flowers, he thinks equally erroneous; and thinks, or knows, I am no florist; at least, is confident I know nothing of growing Chrysanthemums. We will see how his arguments prove. He has told us, what almost every one knows, how to pot and water them; but has said very little on the particular point where we differ. I spoke of the *time*, and preparation of the compost. And I am sure he has never read Maddock's, Hogg's, or any other good florist's directions, if he insists upon his point. I have grown and have seen them grown, with as much success as he flatters himself he has had in growing them, and have never myself, nor ever have seen any one who thought of preparing the compost to put them in, until the moment they are ready to pot off. No one the least initiated, would think of bestowing that care upon chrysanthemums which the first sight of a tulip would denote. Any who wish to have them can, and to great perfection, with no other care or trouble than to put them, as he says, in any good loam, or loam and vegetable mould, and keep them well watered. As to watering them once a day and sometimes twice, it is unnecessary; for they are generally plunged in the ground in some rather shady place, and twice or thrice a week is generally enough, unless you wish to have them as large as berberry bushes.

Let us now see if it is ten times more trouble to raise chrysanthemums, than tulips, ranunculuses, or hyacinths. I hope your correspondent has had observation enough of animal nature, to know that what is life to one is death to another; and the same may be said of vegetables and plants. That

which is life and health to plants in general, is deadly poison to almost all bulbs. If he has ever studied into the analysis of earths, he will be immediately convinced of this. How many people there are, who buy bulbs, with the idea that they shall have a show of beautiful flowers; they go to work, prepare a bed, perhaps throw in five or six, or more, barrows of fresh manure, to have them grow large and thrifty. But alas! they come up, flower very weak and before another season, rot and decay almost every one, as if they were attacked with an epidemic disease. He has told us only of tulips, and has said nothing of hyacinths, or ranuncules. Tulips, he says, he sets out in November, covers the bed on the approach of frost, uncovers in April, forks over the bed with a trowel, shades the flowers, &c. This is very true, but is it all? has he given the depth or distance, and a hundred other minute particulars? can the treatment of such elegant plants be detailed in thirty or forty lines, occupying in most florists' directions as many pages? More has been written upon the growth and cultivation of tulips, and other choice bulbs, than has, or I think ever will be, upon chrysanthemums; there are but very few people who think it requires at least twelve months, for the compost to lay exposed to the sun and air, previously to using. So particular were many of the great Dutch florists, upon the preparation of their composts, that it was kept almost a profound secret.

How many have tried to cultivate tulips, ranuncules and hyacinths, to perfection, and how few have succeeded. While almost every individual, who is a lover of flowers, has chrysanthemums. How many thousand roots of ranuncules have been bought and planted, and come to nought. And what care has been taken to raise them with success. I even heard a gentleman say last season, he was told in New York, they should be planted with the forks of the root up! As much might be said of hyacinths; but I will not take the room, to enlarge upon them at this time. Enough I hope has been said, to show that instead of chrysanthemums being 'ten times' the trouble of tulips, &c, they are a hundred the reverse.

Again, your correspondent seems to think, I am no judge of flowers. I have not the vanity to say my judgment is better than others; but I cannot yield to him. He says tulips last but three weeks, and flower at a time when we have plenty of roses, and perennial herbaceous plants. I think he is here mistaken; certainly he cannot have a very retentive memory! I will but refer him to the last volume of your paper, where he will find that the show of tulips was on the 14th and 21st of May, and roses on the 15th and 22d of June. Indeed, here is a vast difference! Not a rose, I think, was seen in bloom before the first of June, (unless Scotch,) nor a tulip in perfection after the 23d of May. As to the perennial plants he speaks of, I really cannot recollect any of great beauty which flower so early. True there may be some lilacs, &c, but few others.

I agree with him, that there is a delicacy of texture, a soft and satin-like appearance in the lotus chrysanthemum; although I cannot think of comparing it to a tulip. I have examined a tulip, a hyacinth, and a ranunculus, and have almost been enraptured in viewing such elegant plants, hardly knowing which to admire most. A bed of tulips with their endless variety of colors, so evenly shaded together, may almost be contrasted with the brilliant colors of the rainbow, so finely blended. I cannot say the same of ranuncules, as I never had an opportunity of viewing a bed. But taking a single flower, that surpasses all others, both in vividness of color and fineness of texture, and in fact all that belongs to a perfect flower.

I cannot yet (and I hope no one can, who is at all acquainted with flowers,) be induced to acknowledge, what your correspondent thinks existed only in my 'imagination,' or retract any from what I first stated. He hopes to see the time when Horticultural Premiums will be 'ten times' their present value; and I am glad to find that he can take the same pleasure in competing for two, or five dollars, as he can for a larger amount; if he will cultivate to perfection, it is all we wish; he thinks we can have what my imaginatiou pictures if we will only wait a year or two. I hope I shall be blessed with patience.

In regard to the system of awarding premiums, I spoke of, he readily agrees with me, as an excellent plan. But I am sorry he should so misunderstand me, as to convey the idea that I should cast any reproaches upon the gentlemen, who compose the committee. The thought did not enter my mind—yet too many are always ready to find fault and not be content, if there is a doubt of the least partiality. Undoubtedly he is right, in speaking of the care which the 'humble cottager' takes of his few plants; and so far, it goes against the florist. He will, if he is a skilful man, see that his hundred plants are as well nurtured, as the cottager's few; many, however, work only for the interest of their employer, and frequently let their best varieties dwindle away in growth, till they are completely ruined. A real florist and admirer watches them with as much care as the cottager, who only takes that peculiar care for competing for the prize, while the admirer cultivates for his pleasure only.

I have written more than I intended at first, but as your correspondent has found so many faults with my communication, and yet called them 'trifling inaccuracies,' I felt it a duty to fully substantiate all doubts. With the hope that I have not said anything that will be viewed as ungenerous, I remain yours, respectfully,

Cambridge, Feb. 20, 1832. RUSTICUS.

ERRATA. — In the former article of Rusticus, first column, 13th line, for "attention" read "intention." 2d column, 26th line from the top, the word "not" should be omitted.

ADDRESS

PRONOUNCED BEFORE THE MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS THIRD ANNUAL FESTIVAL, SEPTEMBER 21, 1831.

BY MALTHUS A. WARD, M. D.

Continued from page 251.

Such then, gentlemen, are some of the most prominent features in the science of Horticulture,—and such its associated and auxiliary studies. It is unnecessary to expatiate upon the peculiar interest that is attached to such pursuits, even when followed merely as a recreation; on the pleasant excitement which they kindle in the youthful mind, or the expansion they give to the heart in more mature life; on the advantages they possess in an eminent degree, of disciplining the intellectual powers,—training us to habits of quick observation, accurate discrimination, and methodical distribution of ideas; or on the benign influence which they are calculated to have upon the moral sentiments and conduct; which I believe to be far greater than is commonly suspected; for the more we trace design and purpose in the works of Nature, shall we not sympathise the more with the fitness of means to end in human conduct? The more we enter into the details of natural operations, shall we not increase our taste for facts?—which is, in other words, the love of truth—the very foundation of justice and honesty? The venerable Bewich boldly asserts that 'a good naturalist *cannot* be a bad man!'

It has been said that ignorance in philosophy is preferable to superficial knowledge; but it is otherwise in the study of Nature; where every acquisition is useful, from the simplest perception to the deepest researches; from the minutest detail to the most general views; where there are problems to be solved which may gently exercise the weakest or severely task the strongest, intellectual powers. Indeed, it frequently happens, that the most ingenious and apparently incontrovertible reasoning in Natural History is overturned or confirmed by facts accidentally observed by the feeble and unscientific. Fortunately, a profound knowledge of all, or even of any of its branches is not essential to the horticulturist, however desirable it may be; and although a slight acquaintance may not enable him to make many very valuable reprisals from the dark abyss of Nature's mysteries, or add much to the advancement of science for the good of mankind, it certainly will do what is perhaps the next best thing in the world,—it will incalculably promote his own enjoyments.

The prosperity of this Society hitherto, is, I believe, altogether unexampled; and its future prospects are bright and exhilarating in the extreme. Warned by the deplorable embarrassments of some and guided by the happy example of other Horticultural establishments, the strong and sagacious minds which have conducted the affairs of ours so felicitously, to the present moment, will not be likely to err greatly in their management of them here after. Should heaven intercept some of them from seeing all their wise and tasteful plans perfectly accomplished, they may at least enjoy the present confident assurance, that posterity will appreciate and be grateful for their labors. The amazing power of combinations is well known; but has seldom been more agreeably illustrated, that in the formation of associations where the results of individual exertions, experiments and opinions are collected and compared, corrected and concentrated, and the knowledge, thus acquired and prepared, diffused in an attractive form among the mass of mankind by periodical publications. It has been, and I think may again be confidently asserted, that 'more real, useful improvements have been made in gardening since the formation of the London Horticultural Society, than have been made in China within the last thousand years.'

To be concluded next week.

A beautiful specimen of the *Magnolia conspicua*, a native of China, is now in blossom at the Botanic Garden at Cambridge—It is but two feet high, has nine flowers, the petals of which are four inches long, perfectly white and very fragrant; and is well worthy the observation of amateurs.

To CORRESPONDENTS. — We shall next week insert a valuable article from Judge BUEL on Dwarfing Trees—also one from JOHN PRINCE, Esq. on the properties of Liverpool and other Salts, and several others which we have been obliged to omit this week.

CORRECTION. — The premium of $20 awarded to Col. JOHN WILSON of Deerfield, as mentioned in our last paper for Winter Rye, should have been for Winter Wheat.

NEW YORK AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The following gentlemen were on the 16th inst. elected officers of this society for the ensuing year:—

J. Le Ray De Chaumont, of Jefferson, President.
Edward P. Livingston, of Columbia, 1st V. P.
Ambrose Spencer, of Albany, 2d do.
Jacob Morris, of Otsego, 3d do.
Robert S. Rose, of Seneca, 4th do.
P. S. Van Rensselaer, of Albany, R. Sec'ry.
Jesse Buel, of do. C. Sec'ry.
Charles R. Webster, of do. Treasurer.
Henry W. Delavan, of Saratoga, } Executive
John Townsend, of Albany, } Committee
Horario Hiccock, of Rensselaer, }

Committees of correspondence were also appointed in each county in the State, corresponding with the number of representatives in the assembly.

FARM SCHOOL.

A Committee consisting of Charles Jackson, chairman, W. Prescott, J. Tuckerman, P. T. Jackson, J. Tappan, S. T. Armstrong, Moses Grant, George Bond, George Ticknor, James Bowdoin, W. C. Woodbridge, and E. M. P. Wells, have submitted to the public a report relative to establishing a Farm School in the country, for the purpose of giving a good moral and physical education to the idle and needy children, exposed to temptation and acquiring bad habits in this city. Every friend to his country and to humanity, must wish success to the efforts of the public spirited gentlemen associated for the above mentioned benevolent purpose.

Notice.

A STATED MEETING of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society will be held at the Hall of the Society, on Saturday March 3d, 1832. at 11 o'clock.

Feb. 28. R. L. EMMONS, Rec. Sec'y.

A Farm for Sale.

ONE of the best Farms in West Newbury, pleasantly situated near the Merrimack river, on the stage road from Newburyport to Haverhill and Lowell, containing about one hundred and fifteen acres, well divided into Mowing, Pasturing and Tillage. An excellent Farm for Hay, having a large proportion of natural Mowing, and a fine young Orchard. The Farm is composed of three separate lots, and will be sold together or in lots to suit the purchaser. There is on the north side of the road about sixtysix acres, with a large two story House, a Barn, 104 feet by 30, Granary, Chaise-House. Sheds, &c. convenient, and all in good repair. One lot on the south side of the road, opposite the House, containing eighteen acres.

Also, another Lot on the same side of the road, about 40 rods distant, containing about thirty acres, having a good barn on the same, 51 by 28.

Also, a Lot of SALT MARSH, about ten acres, very handy to boat, and of the first quality.

If said Farm is not disposed of at private sale, before Monday the 26th March next, it will be sold on the Wednesday following, at Public Auction, together with the Stock of Cattle, Farming Utensils, about fifty Tons of English Hay, 20 Tons Salt Hay, 60 bushels of Red Top Seed, lot of Potatoes, and sundry other articles.

Sale will be positive. For further particulars inquire of the subscriber on the premises, or at No. 12 Essex street, Boston.

PAUL BAYLEY.

West Newbury, Feb. 20, 1832.

Farm for Sale or to Let.

WILL be sold or let, and possession given immediately, the Waterhill Farm, (so called,) situated in Lynn, consisting of between 70 and 80 acres of as good Land as can be found in the County of Essex, with between 2 and 300 large Apple, Pear, and Peach Trees, two good Dwelling Houses, with ample Barns and out-buildings. Said Farm is most pleasantly located, between the Boston old road and turnpike, and only ten minutes' walk from the Hotel, affording an excellent opportunity for a Milk Farm or a Gardener.

For further particulars inquire of Mr Wiley, near the Lynn Hotel, or of the subscriber.

WM. B. BREED.

Lynn, Feb. 16, 1832. tf

White Mulberry Trees.

WANTED, a few thousands of White Mulberry Trees, two or three years old. Any persons having them are requested to forward the necessary information, with the prices, to the New-England Farmer Office, post paid.

Wool.

JAMES VILA, Wool Broker and Commission Merchant, Nos. 3 and 4, Phillips' Buildings, has for sale a general assortment of

Russian, Saxony Lambs,
Smyrna, do. Sheep,
Jutland, Buenos Ayres,

Also, a large assortment of Domestic Fleece, Sorted and Pulled Wools.

Feb. 28. tf

New Publications.

LILLY & WAIT are preparing for publication, a Practical Treatise on Breeding, Rearing, and Fattening all kinds of Domestic Poultry, Pigeons, and Rabbits; also the management of Swine, Milch Cows and Bees, by B. Moubray, Esq. From the sixth London edition, adapted to general use in this country.

Library of Travels.—To appear in vols of about 300 pages each, comprising the most authentic and interesting travels, into every quarter of the Globe, with accurate and useful maps.

They have just published, Knowledge for the People, price 12 1-2 cents.

Part VI. Sports, Pastimes, and Superstitions.

Also, the Library of Entertaining Knowledge, just published, vol. 7, Part 2.—Menageries: the Elephant. The publication of this beautiful work, which grows rapidly in public favor, continued. Price 40 cents each part.

Flooring Boards, &c.

OF hard Southern Pine, or Eastern White Pine, furnished to order, ready planed (by steam power) and tongued or grooved, of any required dimensions. Quality good, and price lower than they can be elsewhere had.

Apply to E. COPELAND, Jr, 65, Broad street.

Ammunition.

OF the *best* quality and *lowest prices*, for sporting—constantly for sale at COPELAND'S POWDER STORE, 65 Broad Street.

N. B. If the quality is not found satisfactory, it may be returned, and the money will be refunded. Jan. 1

Jewelry, Watches, and Fancy Goods.

WM. M. WESSON, No. 105 Washington Street, Boston, is constantly supplied with a good assortment of Watches, Silver and Plated Ware, Jewelry, Cutlery, Trays of all kinds, Fancy Goods, &c, &c, which he will dispose of at as low a rate as can be purchased in the city. ☞ Watches repaired and warranted.

Situation Wanted.

A Gardener, who considers himself thoroughly acquainted with his business, in all its branches, is familiar with forcing fruits and vegetables, is desirous of a good situation. He has a wife and two children; has lived upwards of seven years at his last place, and can produce satisfactory recommendations from his last and all his other employers. Inquire at the Farmer office.

A Farmer Wanted.

WANTED to hire, in the vicinity of Boston, a man of middle age, who is thoroughly acquainted with farming in all its branches. Inquire at this office.

Bremen Geese.

FOR Sale, 3 or 4 pair of large Bremen Geese, of undoubted purity of blood. Inquire at the N. E. Farmer office. 4t Feb. 15.

Farm for Sale.

ON the road leading from Newton, west parish Meetinghouse, to Waltham Factory, containing from 50 to 75 acres of Land, well proportioned into mowing and tillage — also, House, Barn and Outhouses with the same. Said farm is well watered, and has a valuable fruit Orchard. Apply to Eph. McNamara.

Feb. 15. 6t

Lead Pipe and Sheet Lead.

LEAD PIPE and Sheet Lead of all sizes and dimensions, constantly for sale at No. 110 State street, by

ALBERT FEARING & CO

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE.

			FROM	TO
Apples, russettings,		barrel	3 00	4 00
Ashes, pot, first sort,		ton	120 00	125 00
pearl, first sort,		"	112 00	115 00
Beans, white,		bushel	90	1 00
Beef, mess,		barrel	10 50	11 00
prime,		"	7 75	8 00
Cargo, No. 1,		"	7 00	7 50
Butter, inspected, No. 1, new,		pound	16	18
Cheese, new milk,		"	6	7
skimmed milk,		"		3
Flaxseed,		bushel	1 12	1 50
Flour, Baltimore, Howard-street,		barrel	5 75	6 00
Genesee,		"	6 25	6 50
Alexandria,		"	5 62	5 75
Baltimore, wharf,		"	5 62	5 75
Grain, Corn, Northern,		bushel	85	90
Corn, Southern yellow,		"	75	80
Rye,		"	95	98
Barley,		"	1 12	1 20
Oats,		"	48	50
Hay,		cwt.	65	70
Hog's Lard, first sort, new,		"	9 00	9 75
Hops, 1st quality,		"	11 00	12 00
Lime,		cask	1 25	1 30
Plaister Paris retails at		ton	3 25	3 37
Pork, clear,		barrel	16 00	17 00
Navy mess,		"	13 00	4 00
Cargo, No. 1,		"	13 00	13 50
Seeds, Herd's Grass,		bushel	2 25	2 50
Red Top, northern,		"	67	75
Red Clover, northern,		pound	11	12
Tallow, tried,		cwt.	9 50	10 00
Wool, Merino, full blood, washed.		pound	55	58
Merino, mix'd with Saxony,		"	60	65
Merino, ¾ths, washed,		"	50	52
Merino, half blood,		"	45	48
Merino, quarter,		"	40	42
Native, washed,		"		40
Northern pulled.	Pulled superfine,	"	58	60
	1st Lambs,	"	53	55
	2d, "	"	38	40
	3d, "	"	28	30
	1st Spinning,	"	45	48

Southern pulled Wool is about 5 cents less.

PROVISION MARKET.

Beef, best pieces,	pound	8	10
Pork, fresh, best pieces,	"	6	7
whole hogs,	"	5½	6¼
Veal,	"	6	8
Mutton,	"	4	8
Poultry,	"	9	12
Butter, keg and tub,	"	12	15
lump, best,	"	16	18
Eggs, retail,	dozen	17	20
Meal, Rye, retail,	bushel		1 17
Indian, retail,	"		1 00
Potatoes,	"	37	40
Cider, (according to quality,)	barrel	4 00	5 00

BRIGHTON MABKET—Monday, Feb. 27, 1832.

Reported for the Daily Advertiser and Patriot.

At Market this day 358 Beef Cattle, 392 Sheep, and 9 Cows and Calves.

Prices. *Beef Cattle*—Sales quick and prices advanced. We quote a few yoke at $6,25, extra at 5,75 a 6, prime 5,62 a 5,75, good 5,25 a 5,50, thin 4,75 a 5.

Cows and Calves. We noticed the sale of two at $35 each, two at 30 each, one at 26, and one at 24.

Sheep. We noticed an extraordinary lot of 106, driven by E. Hastings, Esq. of Heath, and fed by Col. Anderson of Shelburne, which attracted much attention; they exceed any lot we ever saw so large, probably any lot ever driven to this market, sale not effected. We also noticed a lot of 26, driven bg Mr T. Rice and fed by Col. Newell of Conway, taken at $9 each—also sales at 6, at 4,75 and 4,50.

New York Cattle Market, Feb. 24.—About 700 head at Market, generally good, sales quick at an average of $6,50—some very fine cattle sold at 7,50—we quote 5,50 a 7. Sheep—a very short supply this week, only about 200; they were all sold at 4 a 7.—*Daily Adv.*

☞ In the N. York market only the quaters of Beef are weighed, the hide and rough tallow being included without weighing. At Brighton, the hide and tallow are weighed as well as the quarters.

MISCELLANY.

From the Boston Centinel.

Messrs Editors.—Among my many scraps, I lately found some lines of poetry by a Philadelphian, occasioned on the adoption of the Federal Constitution in 1787. The ''Vention' met in a wooden meeting house, where now stands Dr Channing's. If your views of resuscitation are in unison with mine, the subsequent will find a place in the Centinel. HISTO MEMO.

THE 'VENTION did in Boston meet,
But State House could not hold 'em;
So then they went to Fed'ral street,
And there the truth was told 'em.

Yankee doodle, keep it up,
Yankee doodle dandy,
Mind the music and the step
And with the girls be handy.

They every morning went to prayer,
And then began disputing,
'Till opposition silenced were
By arguments refuting.

The 'squire HANCOCK like a man
Who dearly loves the nation,
By a concil'atory plan
Prevented much vexation.

He made a woundy Federal Speech
With sense and elocution;
And then the 'Vention did beseech
T' adopt the Constitution.

The question being outright put,
(Each voter Independent,)
The Federalists agreed t' adopt,
And then propose amendment.

The other party seeing then
The People were against 'em,
Agreed like honest, faithful men,
To mix in peace amongst 'em.

The Boston folks are *deucid* lads,
And always full of notions;
The Boys, the Girls, their Mams and Dads
Were filled with joy's commotions.

So straightway they procession made,
Lord! how a *nation* fine, Sir!
For every man of every trade
Went with his tools—to dine, Sir.

JOHN FOSTER WILLIAMS in a Ship
Join'd in the social band, Sir,
And made the lasses dance and skip,
To see him sail on land, Sir.

Oh then a *whopping* feast began,
And all hands went to eating;
They drank their toasts, shook hand and sang,
Huzza! for 'Vention meeting.

Now Politicians of all kinds,
Who are not yet decided,
May see how Yankees speak their minds;
Are yet are not divided.

Then from this sample let 'em cease
Inflammatory writings,
For FREEDOM, HAPPINESS and PEACE,
Is better far than fighting.

So here I end my Fed'ral Song,
Composed of thirteen verses,
May Agriculture flourish long,
And Commerce fill our purses!

Rattle Snake adventure in Oregon.—A curious incident occurred to one of our men, named La Course, which was near proving fatal. This man had stretched himself on the ground, after the fatigue of the day, with his head resting on a small package of goods, and quietly fell asleep. While in this situation I passed him, and was almost petrified at seeing a large rattle snake move from his side to his left breast. My first impulse was to alarm La Course; but an old Canadian whom I had beckoned to the spot, requested me to make no noise, alleging it would merely cross the body and go away. He was mistaken; for on reaching the man's left shoulder, the serpent coiled itself but did not appear to meditate an attack. Having made signs to several others, who joined us, it was determined that two men should advance a little in front, to divert the attention of the snake, while one should approach La Course behind and with a long stick endeavor to remove it from the body. The snake on observing the men advance in front instantly raised its head, darted its forked tongue, and shook its rattles—all indications of anger. Every one was now in a feverish state of agitation as to the fate of poor La Course, who still lay slumbering, unconscious of his danger; when the man behind, who had procured a stick seven feet in length, suddenly placed one end of it under the reptile, and succeeded in pitching it upwards of ten feet from the man's body. A shout of joy was the first intimation La Course received of his wonderful escape; while in the meantime the man with the stick pursued the snake, which he killed. A general search was then commenced about the encampment, and under several rocks we found fifty of them, all of which we destroyed. They have a strong repugnance to the smell of tobacco, in consequence of which we opened a bale of it, and strewed a quantity of loose leaves about the tents, by which means we avoided their visits during the night.—*Adven. on Columbia river.*

Mr Girard used to say that a man who would leave off business because he thought himself rich enough, had very erroneous views—that he attached no more importance to wealth, than he did to his old shoes, but that he looked upon active employment, as one of the greatest duties of life. He used to say that he would plant a tree today, if he thought he should die tomorrow.

A powerful argument in favor of Temperance.—The Medical Intelligencer states, that from Registers of Societies of Friends or Quakers, it appears as a consequence of their temperate habits, that *one half* of those that are born, live to the age of 47 years; whereas, says Dr Price, that of the general society of London, one half live only 23¾ years! Among the quakers, one in ten arrive at 70 years of age; of the general population of London, only one in 40. Never did a more powerful argument support the practice of temperance and a virtuous life.

The following charade is said to be from the pen of a worthy Alderman of the city of London:

'My first is a little thing what hops,
My second gives us good hay crops,
My whole I eats with mutton chops.'
Solution—Sparrow-grass.

It is an honor to their (the Spaniards) laws, that a man loses his testimony who can be proved once to have been drunk.—*Sir William Temple.*

New Work on Fruits, &c.

JOHN B. RUSSELL and CARTER & HENDEE, Boston; G. THORBURN & SONS, New York; GREGG & ELLIOTT and CARY & HART, Philadelphia; S. C. PARKHURST, Cincinnati, and WM. THORBURN, Albany, have in press, and will publish in a few weeks,

THE

NEW AMERICAN ORCHARDIST,

OR AN ACCOUNT OF THE

MOST VALUABLE FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

ADAPTED TO CULTIVATION

IN THE

CLIMATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

WITH THEIR

MODES OF CULTURE AND MANAGEMENT; REMEDIES FOR THE MALADIES TO WHICH THEY ARE SUBJECT FROM CANKER WORMS, BORERS, ET.C.

BY WM. KENRICK.

This work will contain particular descriptions of from 700 to 800 select varieties of fruit, adapted to our varied climate, and will include the Olive and some most useful tropical fruits which may be successfully cultivated in our Southern territories.

The different modes by which the new varieties of fruit have been obtained, will be described; modes of pruning and training, by which trees, &c, are rendered fruitful; of grafting and inoculation; and of the modes of propagating usually adopted.

It will contain descriptions (besides old sorts) of from 100 to 120 *new varieties* of Pears of UNDOUBTED EXCELLENCE; from 60 to 80 of which are not particularly described and condensed in any one European volume which has hitherto reached us; some American, but chiefly the new and most approved Flemish varieties.

The descriptions are partly from personal observation, and from assistance received from some of the most intelligent horticulturists of New England; from the best writers of America, and the best foreign productions; the descriptions of Van Mons, the splendid edition of New Duhamel, the Pomological Magazine, the superb Pyrus Malus Brentfordiensis of Ronald, and Lindley's Guide to the Orchard and Kitchen Garden. From these it has been the constant aim, to cull from their *extremely varied* and *select lists*, all that was *beautiful, excellent, productive* and *profitable*.

From these will be formed *another select list*, of those sorts already approved *with us*, as the *best and most productive*.

In regard to the *new varieties* of fruits of America and of Europe, it will be the aim of the writer, to render this work particularly interesting, and adapted to the different sections of our highly favored country.

The very best of late English works, we refer to those just named, those celebrated works which are beyond all doubt *so admirably adapted to the climate and country for which they were principally designed*, and as auxiliaries to us, are extremely deficient in regard to those native fruits which are with us so highly esteemed. We will instance some; with others it is even still worse.

In their description of apples we find very few, scarce half a dozen, of our fine native varieties described or even named: those fruits which agree so well with us—the selections from the innumerable native orchards of our country during two centuries.

They describe but *one* variety of our *native* pears, and in the place of those not described, they recommend to us other varieties, *the very sorts we have long since rejected.*

They describe but *two* varieties of our native peaches, so much admired by travellers; some, the finest of the South of Europe are equally unnoticed,—the fine selections from the vast native orchards of this fruit at the South, for distillation,—all these, the productions of our own and other equally favored climates, are rejected from their lists as *'worthless;'* not being adapted to their hostile seasons and latitude, and not coming to full maturity and excellence, even on the walls to which their cultivation is confined.

A few engravings may be furnished, such as a plan of the Thomery mode of training Grape Vines; the quenouille mode of training trees, &c.

It will be comprised in one volume of about 300 pages, and will be furnished for about $1 per copy. Feb. 22.

Published every Wednesday Evening, at $3 per annum, payable at the end of the year—but those who pay within sixty days from the time of subscribing, are entitled to a deduction of fifty cents.

☞ No paper will be sent to a distance without payment being made in advance.